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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 18 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, between 8 and 14 August 1999, United States and British aircraft, taking off from their bases in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, continued to violate Iraqi airspace, carrying out acts of aggression, observation and provocation, as specified in the list annexed hereto.

I should be grateful if you would intervene with the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the States which are providing them with facilities in order to commit these acts of aggression, namely, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to halting such acts, which endanger the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq and constitute blatant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law.

These acts continue to cause hundreds of deaths and injuries among the civilian population and material damage to private and public property. The logistical support provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey to the Americans and the British makes them essential accomplices in the aggression against Iraq, and they therefore bear international responsibility for these acts. The Republic of Iraq reaffirms its right to demand reparation for the harm inflicted on the Iraqi people through the aforementioned acts.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Details of violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft and damage caused, 8-14 August 1999

1. In the northern region 72 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Dohuk, Mosul, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Irbil, Zakho, Baibo, Ayn Zalah, Tall Kayf, Sinjar, Rawanduz and Ba'shiqah.

2. In the southern region 252 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basra, Amarah, Artawi, Jalibah, Salman, Busayyah, Lasaf, Qurnah, Afak, Qal'at Salih, Qal'at Sukkar, Rifa'i, Ushbayjah, Shinafiyah, Qadisiyah, Ali al-Sharqi, Hayy, Hawr al-Hammar, Maymunah, Rumaythah, Taqtaqanah, Shu'aybah, Najaf, Shatrah, Ansab and Umm Qasr.

3. At 0825 hours on 8 August 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s and F-16s, and were supported by one AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and one E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They carried out 61 sorties, 45 from Saudi airspace and 16 from Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Ushbayjah, Mu'ayanah, Khidr, Artawi, Salman, Samawah, Nasiriyah, Rifa'i, Qal'at Sukkar and Jalibah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2015 hours, drove them off.

4. At 1045 hours on 8 August 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 sorties, and overflew the Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Amadiyah, Irbil, Qal'at Dizah, Dukan dam and Rawanduz areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1340 hours, drove them off.

5. At 0832 hours on 9 August 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory, supported by one AWACS early warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 20 sorties, and overflew the Irbil, Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Zakho, Amadiyah and Sinjar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1545 hours, drove them off.

6. At 0832 hours on 9 August 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, F-18s, Tornadoes and EA-6B aircraft and were supported by two AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and one E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They carried out 56 sorties, 28 from Saudi airspace and 28 from Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Lasaf, Ushbayjah, Salman, Artawi, Basra, Qurnah and Rifa'i areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1545 hours, drove them off.

7. At 0100 hours on 10 August 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Turkish territory, supported by one AWACS early warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 sorties, and overflew the Dohuk, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Baibo, Amadiyah, Zakho, Rawanduz, Sinjar and Mosul areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1305 hours, drove them off.

8. At 1050 hours on 10 August 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, Tornadoes and EA-6Bs, and were supported by one AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and one E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They carried out 40 sorties, 12 from Kuwaiti airspace and 28 from Saudi airspace. The aircraft overflew the Samawah, Lasaf, Salman, Ushbayjah, Rifa'i and Nasiriyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1825 hours, drove them off.

9. At 1930 hours on 10 August 1999 United States and British aircraft bombed grain warehouses in the southern governorate of Muthanna. The consequences of the bombing were as follows:

1. Large quantities of rice stored in the warehouses were destroyed.

2. The walls and roofs of some of the warehouses were damaged.

3. Glass and windows in the warehouses were shattered and damaged.

4. The walls and roof of the warehouse administration building were damaged.

10. At 0953 hours on 11 August 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18 and Tornado aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory, supported by one AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. The aircraft carried out 13 sorties from Saudi airspace, overflying the Artawi, Samawah, Ushbayjah, Nasiriyah, Qurnah, Rumaythah, Rifa'i, Shatrah and Khidr areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1140 hours, drove them off.

11. At 1023 hours on 13 August 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Turkish territory, supported by one AWACS early warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 20 sorties, overflying the Dohuk, Tall Afar, Mosul and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1350 hours, drove them off.

12. At 1025 hours on 13 August 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, F-18s, Tornadoes and EA-6Bs, and were supported by one AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and one E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They carried out 28 sorties, 12 from Saudi airspace and 16 from

Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Artawi, Samawah, Busayyah, Ushbayjah, Nasiriyah, Qurnah, Rumaythah, Rifa'i and Shatrah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2000 hours, drove them off.

13. At 0935 hours on 14 August 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s and Tornadoes, and were supported by one AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and one E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They carried out 54 sorties, 32 from Saudi airspace and 22 from Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Chabaish, Basra, Qurnah, Lasaf, Samawah, Amarah and Ushbayjah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1715 hours, drove them off.